

Message Text

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AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

UNCLAS BELGRADE 4037

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, YO

SUBJ: YUGOSLAVIA PURCHASING CORN

REF : TOFAS 73 NOTAL

SUMMARY : GOVERNMENT HAS AUTHORIZED YUGOSLAV IMPORT AGENTS
TO BUY 100,000 TONS OF MAIZE. END SUMMARY.

1. AS AGUWT ANTICIPATED (YG 4020, JULY 24, 1974), BOY HAS
AUTHORIZED IMPORTATION OF 100,000 TONS OF CORN TO HELP RELIEVE
LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS UNTIL HARVEST AND CHECK RISING PRICES. IN
ADDITION TO MEETING IMMEDIATE NEED, EXPERT SOURCE SAID MOVE
SHOULD HAVE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT. HE NOTED THAT LIVESTOCK
PRODUCERS HAD REQUESTED IMPORT OF 300,000 TONS AND SMALLER
QUANTITY WILL BE INSUFFICIENT DIRECTLY TO AFFECT MARKET. IT
IS HOPED, HOWEVER, THAT WILLINGNESS TO IMPORT WILL INDUCE PRIVATE
GROWERS TO RELEASE REPORTEDLY LARGE STOCKS OF CORN WHICH THEY
HAVE HELD BACK WAITING FOR PRICE TO REACH A PLATEAU. PREDIC-
TIONS FOR THE HARVEST ITSELF REMAIN GOOD.

2. IMPORTERS WILL OBTAIN NO COMPENSATION FOR ANY PRICE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC CORN. IMPORTED CORN WILL
BE DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLWOS: VOJVODINA - 30,000 TONS, KOSOVO,
2,000 TONS, SERBIA PROPER - 20,000 TONS, CROATIA - 25,000 TONS,
SLVENIA - 10,000 TONS, MONTENEGRO, 3,000 TONS, MACEDONIA 5,000
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TONS, AND BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA - 5,000 TONS.

3. SEVERAL YUGOSLAV IMPORTERS/EXPORTERS ARE AUTHORIZED TO IMPORT CORN, BUT INTERESTED US COMPANIES MAY WISH TO CONTACT ONE OF THE FOUR COMPANIES WHICH HANDLED MOST OF THE BUSINESS. THEY ARE : GRANEXPORT, BELGRADE, TELEX 11213, 11278 BY GRANEX, YUGOEXPORT, KOLARCEVA 1/I, BELGRADE, NO TELEX) AGRO-VOJVODINA, BULEVAR 23 OKLOVRA 61, P.O. BOX 169, 21001 NOVI SAD (NO TELEX), AGRARIACOOP, ZAGREB, TELEX 21220 BY AGREX

4. WE HAVE RECEIVED INQUIRY FROM ONE OTHER IMPORTER, THE MAJOR YUGOSLAV IMPORT EXPORT ENTERPRISE ASTRA-MASINO-IMPEX, TELEX 21 125 YU ASTRA, 41000 ZAGREB (REFTEL). THOUGH ASTRA IS NOT KNOWN PREVIOUSLY TO HAVE IMPORTED CORN, IT IS ELIGIBLE TO DO SO AND AND TOLD EMBASSY JULY 13 THAT IT HAS ASKED US SUPPLIERS TO PROVIDE FOB NY QUOTES FOR 10,000 TONS. FRANJO SKOPOL, DIRECTOR OF ENTERPRISES'S SUBSIDIARY MULTIHOLD OF PARIS, HAD EARLIER REGRETTED TO AMCONSUL ZAGREB THAT US EXPORTERS APPEARED UNWILLING PROVIDE CIF RIJEKA QUOTES TO MULTIHOLD. HE STATED THAT AGATT PARIS FOR REASONS UNCLEAR TO HIM HAD REFERRED HIM TO EAST-WEST TRADE CENTER VIENNA. MULTIHOLD IS NOT AN AUTHORIZED YUGOSLAV IMPORTER, BUT IT MIGHT BE ABLE TO ORGANIZE ARRANGEMENTS WITH PARENT FIRM ASTRA. EMBASSY PARIS MAY WISH TO ADVISE OF ITS DEALINGS WITH SKOPOL.
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